

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-14 COME-00 TRSE-00 EB-11 SCEM-02 SCI-06

AID-20 CIEP-02 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 OPIC-12 /173 W

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O 151730Z OCT 73

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 591

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0561

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARAGRAPHS RE NUMBERED
AND CORRECTION TO TEXT THROUGHOUT)

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR IZUS

SUBJECT: THREATS AGAINST U.S. GROWING

1. REPORTS OF U.S. RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL AND POSSIBLE INTERVENTION
RECEIVED ONLY MODERATE COVERAGE IN IRAQI MEDIA UNTIL OCT 14
WHEN EGYPTIAN CLAIM OF RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS AND SYRIAN CLAIM
ABOUT THREE AMERICAN PILOTS RECEIVED PROMINENT ATTENTION.

2. TWIN THEMES OF EDITORIALS ARE AMERICAN ISRAELI ALLIANCE AND
NECESSITY OF STRIKING AT AMERICAN INTERESTS. OFFICIAL JU MHURR
FYA CALLED SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE "DECLARATION OF AMERICAN
PARTNERSHIP WITH ISRAEL AND CLEAR REPLY TO THOSE ARABS WHO WISHED
TO KEEP AMERICA'S FRIENDSHIP AND THOUGHT THEY COULD CONVINCE
AMERICA TO BE NONALIGNED. KISSINGER MADE CLEAR THAT AMERICA
REMAINING LOYAL TO ISRAEL FAILURE TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST AMERICAN
INTERESTS AFTER TODAY CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS DISAVOWAL OF ARAB
LIBERATION MOVEMENT". ISRAELI RAID ON BANIAS SEEN AS "SPECIAL SERVICE
BY ISRAEL FOR ITS MASTERS IN WHITE HOUSE IN REVENGE FOR NATIONALI-
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ZATION AND MOBIL". ATH-THAWRA CRITICIZED MEETING IN KUWAIT

OCT 16 AND SAID OIL PRODUCERS SHOULD "STOP WASTING TIME ON POLEMICS AND FOLLOW IRAQ'S LEAD BY NATIONALIZING AMERICAN INTERESTS".

3. COMMENT: IN CURRENT EMOTIONAL ATMOSPHERE U.S. STATEMENTS UNLIKELY TO HAVE MODERATING INFLUENCE. NEVERTHELESS, I WOULD LIKE TO CONVEY TO GOI ANY ASSURANCES OR MESSAGES DEPARTMENT BELIEVES MIGHT BE HELPFUL. WE HAVE DURING PAST SIX MONTHS DEVELOPED BASIS FOR SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH IRAQ AND DESPITE NATIONALIZATION THAT, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, GOI WISHES TO PRESERVE IT. BEST INDICATION IS THAT BOTH NEILL-PRICE GROUP AND BECHTEL GROUP ARE HERE NEGOTIATING FOR 300 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR NORTH-SOUTH PIPE-LINE. CONTRACT EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED MOMENTARILY. NOR IS THERE ANY INDICATION GOI WISHES TO BREAK EARLIER 122 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT WITH BROWN AND ROOT FOR DEEP SEA TERMINAL, 50 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR FIVE BOEING AIRCRAFT OR 15 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT WITH US STEEL FOR DRILLING RIGS. NUMEROUS OTHER CONTRACTS ARE IN OFFING. GOI SEES NOTHING INCONGRUOUS IN THESE CONTRACTS SINCE, IN ITS EYES, NATIONALIZATION IS RIDDING COUNTRY OF REMNANTS OF COLONIAL ERA WHEREAS NEW CONTRACTS ARE FREELY ARRIVED AT AND STRICTLY COMMERCIAL.

4. IN POST WAR ERA, WEIGHT OF SOVIET UNION ON IRAQIS GOING TO BE HEAVIER THAN BEFORE AND IF AT ALL POSSIBLE WE SHOULD PROTECT OUR INCIPIENT BUT POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC PRESENCE.
LOWRIE

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